



News from

Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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Kind: Wisconsin Physician Price Ranking Concerning *Addressing the rising costs of healthcare remains top priority*

Washington, DC – U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) expressed concern today over a government report showing eight of ten metropolitan areas across the nation with the highest physician prices are in Wisconsin (La Crosse tops the list with prices 48% above the national average; Eau Claire is third-ranked with 42% above the average).

“In the face of steadily increasing premiums and the skyrocketing cost of prescription drugs, the news that Wisconsinites pay unusually high physician prices compared to consumers nationwide is very troubling,” stated Rep. Ron Kind. “I have great respect for our local health care providers and the high quality care they give, however, we need to take a good hard look at this analysis to determine why our state appears to blow other states out of the water in this ranking.”

The report was put together by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and looked at physician prices in 319 metro areas across the country. Every metro area in the state, except for Fond du Lac, ranked in the top 16. The GAO analyzed claims from 2001 for employees and retirees enrolled in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. A copy of the report can be found on Congressman Kind’s website at